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Chief of Base, Frankfurt

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Operational/CART/CARAVEL

Kurt LEHR and Tunisian Police Training in Germany

REF: TNIS 228, 6 February 1958

1. In a meeting on 1 March 1958, [ ] asked CARAVEL whether he had heard of Kurt LEHR, supposedly a German police official who had visited Tunis in late January 1958 and who was conjecturally connected with rumors that some unidentified element of the German government was offering to train Tunisian police officers as part of a technical aid program. CARAVEL did not off hand recognize the name, but said that he would try to identify it discreetly.

2. CARAVEL said that there are no Tunisian policemen enrolled in the Federal Police School and no plan of which he is aware for Tunisia to send any students. He also has not heard any plan to assign German advisors or instructors in Tunisia.

3. Since CARAVEL is in a position to be definite on this subject, we must conclude that if there is any truth in the rumors mentioned in [ ] 228, it must rest on an approach from some agency other than the German Federal Police and through other than police liaison channels. CARAVEL specifically stated that Hassen ESSID, Chief of the National Central Bureau in the Surete Nationale, and Tunisian representative on INTERPOL, had not brought up any proposition for training Tunisian policemen, and that no offer had been made to ESSID, although this kind of subject is standard at INTERPOL meetings. Tunisia's entry into INTERPOL and ESSID's assignment as Tunisian representative occurred at the XXVth General Convention in Lisbon from 17 through 22 June 1957.

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